Introduced by Senator Soto

February 23, 2001

An act to add Section 19407 to the Government Code, relating to state employees.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1006, as amended, Soto. State employment: reimbursement of educational expenses.

Existing law requires all departments and agencies of state government to establish an effective program of upward mobility for employees in low paying occupational groups.

This bill would permit the State Personnel Board, upon a determination of a serious recruitment shortage in a class or group of classes of employment, to authorize state agencies to reimburse new or incumbent state employees for, who are in career development paths that are determined to be in hard-to-recruit classes, for their college tuition, books, and other educational expenses.

The bill would require reimbursement for these expenses to be made from existing departmental funds. This reimbursement would be in exchange for the state employees who receive the reimbursement serving a predetermined minimum period of state employment. The State Personnel Board would be required to establish, by rule, guidelines for state agencies to implement this provision these provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

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The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 19407 is added to the Government Code, to read:

- 19407. (a) The Legislature hereby declares that it is the policy of the state to attract the "most qualified" college students or students who attend accredited educational institutions into state service employment upon graduation and to encourage and support state employees through departmental upward mobility career development programs to complete college course work necessary for career advancement.
- (b) The State Personnel Board, upon a determination of a 10 serious recruitment shortage in a class or group of classes, may 11 authorize state agencies to reimburse new or incumbent state 12 employees for, who are in career development paths that are 13 determined to be in hard-to-recruit classes, for their college 14 tuition, books, and other educational expenses expenses. 15 16 Participation by state agencies in the program is discretionary; the funding reimbursement for the program shall come from existing 17 departmental training funds. Reimbursement shall be in exchange for the state employees who receive the reimbursement serving a 19 predetermined minimum period of state employment. The board shall establish, by rule, guidelines for state agencies to implement 21 22 this section.